Survey # F-2-100
Burkittsville Road   Approximate date __September 14, 1862__
Street Address: Village of Burkittsville to South Mountain Summit, Crampton's Gap.
Town, State: Burkittsville, MD
_private ___, public _X_

Burkittsville Road, the historic name for today's Gapland Road leads almost due south from the summit of South Mountain, making an almost right angle turn to the east near the base of the mountain, and continuing into the village of Burkittsville. In its descent from the summit, the road nearly parallels the Mountain Church road which runs along the base of the mountain. Both of these roads figured prominently in the attack of the Federal VI Corps on the thinly spread Confederate force defending the gap in the Civil War Battle of South Mountain which occurred on September 14, 1862. The road today is two lane and paved. It follows the same path and grade as it did at the time of the Battle in 1862. Major General William B. Franklin, commander of the VI Corps, in his report on the battle, offered this description of Burkittsville Road: "The enemy was posted on both sides of the road, which made a steep ascent through a narrow defile, wooded on both sides and offering great advantages of cover and position." The portion of the road discussed in this form is approximately one mile in length. It is important because of its direct and primary involvement in the Civil War Battle of South Mountain.

Photo Reference: Photo #

Form Prepared By: Paula S. Reed, PhD and Edith B. Wallace
                  Woodward-Clyde
                  200 Orchard Ridge Drive
                  Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Date:

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. F-2-100

Magi No.

DOE ____ yes ____ no

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1. Name of Property   (indicate preferred name)

historic   Burkittsville Road

and/or common Gapland Road

2. Location

street & number South Mountain, from Burkittsville to summit   ____ not for publication

city, town   Burkittsville   _X_ vicinity of   congressional district 6

state Maryland   county Frederick

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
____ district)	_X_ public	_X_ occupied	____ agriculture	____ museum
____ building(s)	____ private	____ unoccupied	____ commercial	____ park
_X_ structure	____ both	____ work in progress	____ educational	____ private residence
____ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	____ entertainment	____ religious
____ object	____ in process	____ yes: restricted	____ government	____ scientific
	____ being considered	_X_ yes: unrestricted	____ industrial	_X_ transportation
	_X_ not applicable	____ no	____ military	____ other:

4. Owner of Property   (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name   Frederick County Roads Department

street & number Winchester Hall, East Church St.   telephone no.:

city, town   Frederick   state and zip code MD 21701

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse   Liber

street & number   100 W. Patrick Street   Folio

city, town   Frederick   state MD

6. Representation in Existing   Historical Surveys

title National Register Nomination Form, South Mountain Battlefields, F-4-17 A,B,C

date   February, 1986   _X_ federal ____ state ____ county ____ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville   state MD

7. Description

Condition

___ excellent	___ deteriorated
X good	___ ruins
___ fair	___ unexposed

Check one
___ unaltered
X altered

Check one
X original site
___ moved   date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Burkittsville Road, the historic name for today's Gapland Road leads almost due south from the summit of South Mountain, making an almost right angle turn to the east near the base of the mountain, and continuing into the village of Burkittsville. In its descent from the summit, the road nearly parallels the Mountain Church road which runs along the base of the mountain. Both of these roads figured prominently in the attack of the Federal VI Corps on the thinly spread Confederate force defending the gap in the Civil War Battle of South Mountain which occurred on September 14, 1862. The road today is two lane and paved. It follows the same path and grade as it did at the time of the Battle in 1862. Major General William B. Franklin, commander of the VI Corps, in his report on the battle, offered this description of Burkittsville Road: "The enemy was posted on both sides of the road, which made a steep ascent through a narrow defile, wooded on both sides and offering great advantages of cover and position."[1] The portion of the road discussed in this form is approximately one mile in length.

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[1]**Official Records**, sec.1, vol. xix, pt 1, p.375.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400-1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500-1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600-1699	___ architecture	___ education	_x_ military	___ social/
___ 1700-1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	humanitarian
_X_ 1800-1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ theater
___ 1900-	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	_X_ transportation
		___ invention		___ other(specify)

Specific dates September 14, 1862   **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: _X_ A   ___ B   ___ C   ___ D
       and/or

       Applicable Exceptions: ___ A   ___ B   ___ C   ___ D   ___ E   ___ F   ___ G

       Level of Significance: _X_ national   ___ state   ___ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Burkittsville Road is significant for its association with the Civil War Battle of South Mountain. The road was directly involved in the course of the battle and the military action that took place on September 14, 1862. The roads and the three mountain gaps through which they passed were critical to the objectives of both the Union and Confederate armies. The road was of strategic importance because it provided access to one of the few crossing places through the mountains. Turner's Gap about seven miles to the north, became the focal point for the fight and was the main objective for the Union army as it attempted to follow the Confederates into the Hagerstown Valley and capture the divided rebel army. The Burkittsville Road also is one of the oldest through Frederick and Washington Counties, having been established as early as the 1730s.

The discovery on September 13, 1862 of General Robert E. Lee's Special Order #191, the Lost Order, in a field near Frederick where the Confederates had camped precipitated the march of the Army of the Potomac toward South Mountain along the Old National Pike. The turnpike crossed the mountain running west toward the center of Lee's divided army. Had Union commander, George B. McClellan approached the mountain with speed, as he had indicated he would to President Lincoln, the Battle of South Mountain might have ended differently.[2]

The Special Order #191 detailed General Lee's deployment of the Army of Northern Virginia in September 1862. In addition to the siege of Harper's Ferry by three divisions under Stonewall Jackson from the west and two divisions under Lafayette McLaws from the northeast, the orders described the location of Robert E. Lee and James Longstreet with two divisions at Hagerstown and D.H.Hill's division, alone at Boonsboro, just below Turner's Gap. With the knowledge of the divided nature of Lee's army on the west side of South Mountain, and the small defensive lines at the passes, McClellan felt confident in his army's ability to catch Lee's forces in this vulnerable position. However, McClellan's infamous cautiousness and over-estimation of the size of his opponent, delayed the movement of the Army of the Potomac for half a day. The result of his slow approach to the passes at South Mountain was to give the Confederate defenders time to reinforce their tenuous positions and begin pulling their divided army together again at Sharpsburg.

General McClellan ordered Major General William B. Franklin to seize Crampton's Gap, and when that had been completed, to continue on to

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[2]Stephen W. Sears, "Fire on the Mountain," **Blue and Gray**, December-January, 1986-86, p. 11

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DOE ____ yes ____ no

Section Number ___8___ Page ___2___

Rohrersville on the west side of the mountain and take that crossroads community with the objective of cutting off, destroying or capturing McLaws two divisions and thereby relieving the Harpers Ferry garrison.[3] When Franklin received his orders, he was some twelve miles east of Burkittsville and many hours would be consumed in moving his corps to the base of the gap. When Franklin reached South Mountain near Burkittsville, his corps was shelled by Confederate guns placed on Burkittsville Road and on the Brownsville Road just to the south. This shelling led Franklin to conclude that there was a sizable Confederate force defending the pass. In fact, the Confederate defense consisted of about 1000 men under the direction of Colonel Thomas T. Munford, while Franklin's two divisions totaled 12,300 men.[4]

The Union advance against the Confederates at Crampton's Gap took place primarily to the north and west of Burkittsville. Franklin held Smith's Division in reserve, to the south and east of the town. Following the advance of Major General Henry Slocum's Division across the stone walls at the base of the mountain, Brooks' Brigade of Smith's Division, moved out across the fields of the Arnold Farm and up the Burkittsville Road (Gapland Rd.) completing the rout.[5]

The limestone house of David Arnold, located along the Burkittsville Road, was the site of the second wave of attack of Franklin's forces against Crampton's Gap. With the Confederate line along Mountain Church Road engaged by Slocum's Division, General Franklin "...directed General Brooks' brigade, of Smith's division, to advance upon the left of the road [Gapland (Burkittsville) Road], and dislodge the enemy from the woods upon Slocum's flank."[6] The Vermont regiments of Brooks' Bridgade first met resistance at the stone wall marking the western edge of the Arnold Farm.[7] The wall still delineates the western perimeter of the property.

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[3]Stephen W. Sears, "Fire on the Mountain," **Blue and Gray Magazine,** December-January 1986-87, p. 12.

[4]Sears, "Fire," p. 14.

[5]Dave Roth, "The General's Tour of South Mountain," **Blue and Gray Magazine,** December-January, 1986-87, p. 52

[6]Jay Luvaas and Harold W. Nelson, eds. **The US Army War College Guide to the Battle of Antietam, The Maryland Campaign of 1862,** p. 78, from O.R., Vol XIX, Part I, pp.374-75.

[7]Roth, p.52

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DOE ___ yes ___ no

Section Number ___8___ Page ___3___

HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

      Agricultural-Industrial Transition, A.D. 1815-1870

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

      Military

Resource Type:

      Category: Structure

      Historic Environment: Rural

      Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

            Transportation/Road

      Known Design Source: None

9. Major Bibliographical References

Books

Hartwig, D. Scott, <u>Civil War Regiments, A Journal of the American Civil War</u>, Vol 5, #3, "Antietam, the Maryland Campaign of 1862". Article entitled "My God, Be Careful! The Morning Battle of Fox's Gap", Savas Publishing Co., Campbell, CA, 1997.

Luvaas, Jay and Harold W. Nelson eds., <u>The U.S. Army War College Guide to the Battle of Antietam, The Maryland Campaign of 1862,</u> Harper Collins Publishers, Washington, 1987.

Murfin, James V., <u>The Gleam of Bayonets, The Battle of Antietam and Robert E. Lee's Maryland Campaign, September 1862</u>, Thomas Yoseloff, New York, 1965.

Roth, Dave, "The General's Tour of South Mountain", Blue & Gray Magazine, Dec-Jan, 1986-87.

Schildt, John W., <u>The Ninth Corps, At Antietam</u>, Chewsville, Maryland, 1988.

Sears, Stephen W., "Fire On The Mountain, The Battle of South Mountain September 14, 1862", Blue & Gray Magazine, Dec-Jan, 1986-87.

Sears, Stephen W., <u>Landscape Turned Red, The Battle of Antietam</u>, Ticknor and Fields, New York, 1983.

Swinton, William, <u>Army of the Potomac</u>, Smithmark Publisher, New York, 1995.

U.S. War Department, <u>The War of Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies</u>, Series I, Vol XIX, Parts I and II, Government Printing Office, Washington, 1880-1901.

Manuscripts

Frye, Dennis, National Register Nomination Form, South Mountain Battlefields F-4-17-A,B,C, 1986.

Maps

<u>The Official Military Atlas of the Civil War</u>, Plate 27, Gramercy Books, New York, 1983.

Engineers Maps, 1862, National Register Nomination, South Mountain Battlefields F-4-17-A,B,C, 1986.

Macombe Map, 1861.

10. Geographical Data

F-2-100

Acreage of nominated property __approximately 5__

Quadrangle name __Keedysville__   Quadrangle scale __1:24,000__

UTM References   DO NOT COMPLETE UTM REFERENCES

A ⌊_⌋ ⌊_____⌋ ⌊_____⌋   B ⌊_⌋ ⌊_____⌋ ⌊_____⌋
   Zone Easting   Northing   Zone Easting   Northing

C ⌊_⌋ ⌊_____⌋ ⌊_____⌋   D ⌊_⌋ ⌊_____⌋ ⌊_____⌋

E ⌊_⌋ ⌊_____⌋ ⌊_____⌋   F ⌊_⌋ ⌊_____⌋ ⌊_____⌋

G ⌊_⌋ ⌊_____⌋ ⌊_____⌋   H ⌊_⌋ ⌊_____⌋ ⌊_____⌋

Verbal boundary description and justification

     The length of Burkittsville Road running from the village of Burkittsville to the the crest of the mountain, approximately 1 mile. Frederick Co. Tax Map #73.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

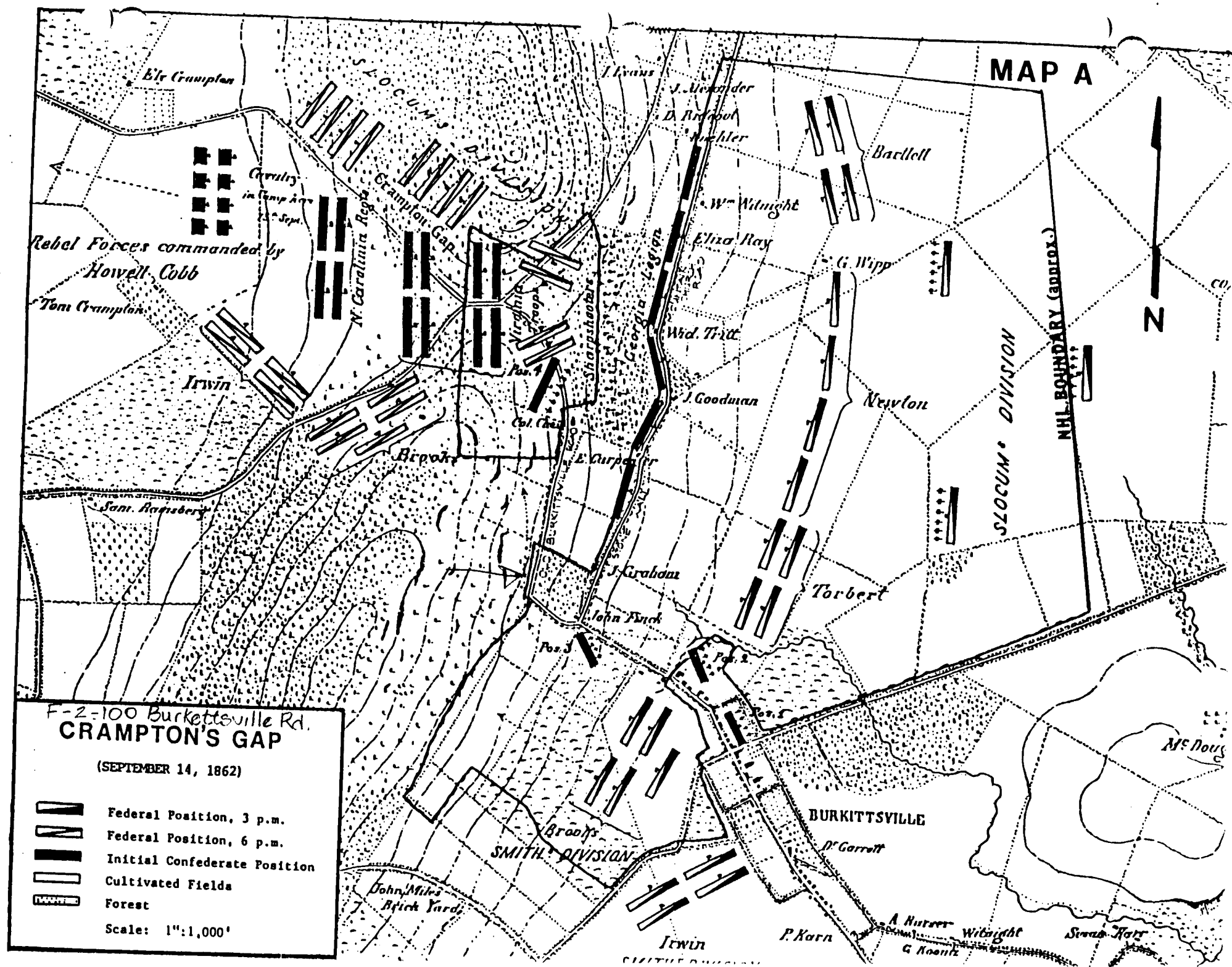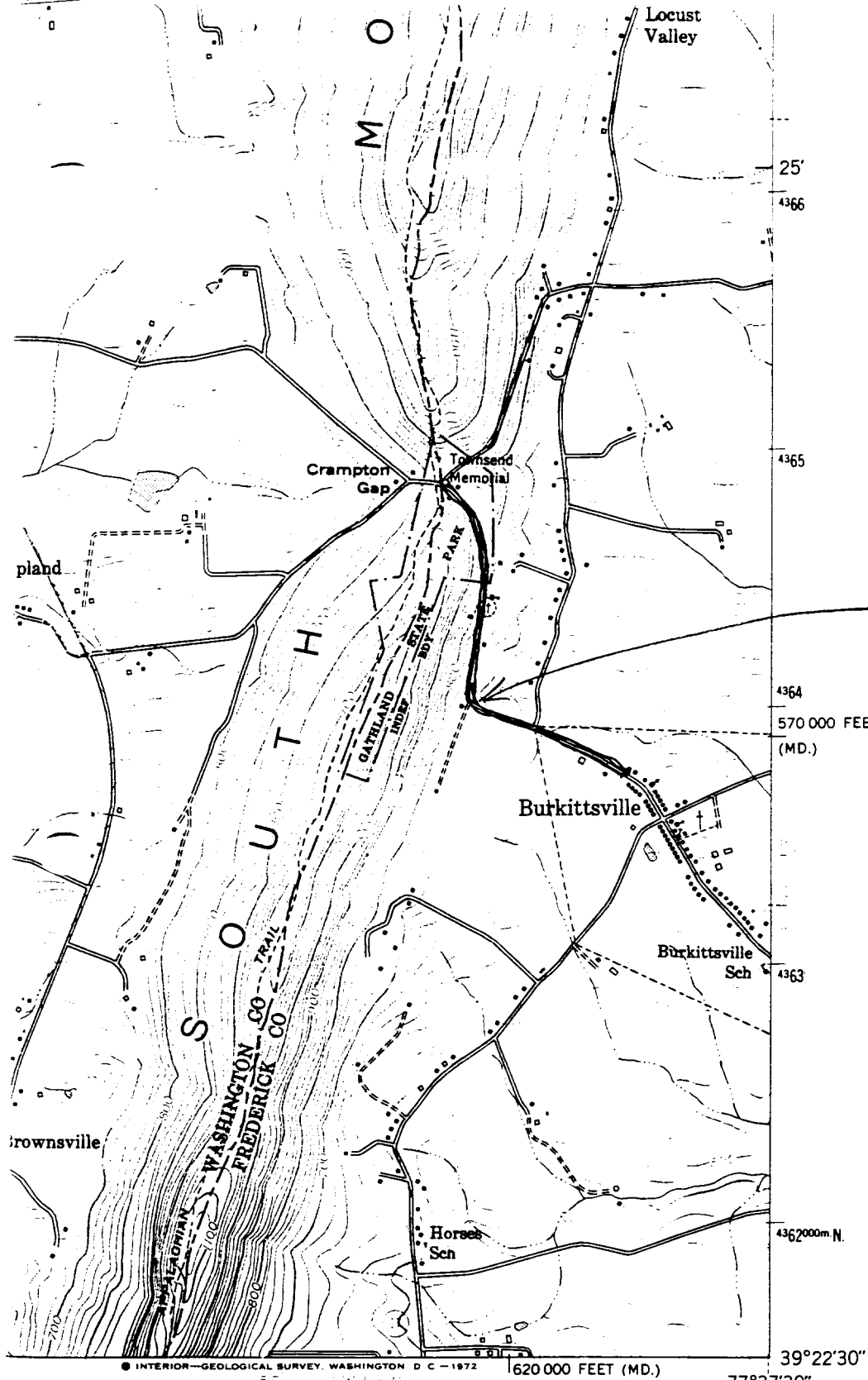|	
name/title	Paula S. Reed, PhD and Edith B. Wallace
organization	Woodward-Clyde date 2/98
street & number	200 Orchard Ridge Drive telephone 301-739-2070
city or town	Gaithersburg state MD 20878

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
            People's Resource Center
            100 Community Place
            Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
            410-514-7000

MAP A

N

CRAMPTON'S GAP

(SEPTEMBER 14, 1862)

Federal Position, 3 p.m.
Federal Position, 6 p.m.
Initial Confederate Position
Cultivated Fields
Forest

Scale: 1":1,000'

Rebel Forces commanded by Howell Cobb

BURKITTSVILLE

SLOCUM' DIVISION

NHL BOUNDARY (approx.)

Locust
Valley

25'

4366

4365

Crampton
Gap

Townsend
Memorial

pland

SOUTH

STATE BDY

PARK

GATHLAND
INDEX

TRAIL

WASHINGTON CO
FREDERICK CO

APPALACHIAN

100

4364

570 000 FEET
(MD.)

Burkittsville

Burkittsville
Sch

4363

Brownsville

Horses
Scn

4362000m N.

● INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON D C — 1972

620 000 FEET (MD.)
273000m.E.

39°22'30"
77°37'30"

(POINT OF ROCKS)
5462 I SE

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
1963

| Heavy-duty | ━━━━ | Light-duty | ═══ |
| Medium-duty | ━━━ | Unimproved dirt | ════════ |

U. S. Route   State Route

KEEDYSVILLE, MD.—W. VA.

N 3922.5—W7737.5/7.5

1953

MD

GLE LOCATION

MD-55